

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Cultural Arts Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 19, 2011 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Endo-Roberts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Bunting, Endo-Roberts, Korman,
Miranda, Rische, Shwarts, and Chairperson Candioly.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Community Services Director Jones and
Cultural Services Senior Supervisor Bell.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Miranda moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Korman seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF AUGUST 15, 2011

MOTION: Commissioner Rische moved for the approval of the August 15, 2011 Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Bunting seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7A. JOINT MEETING WITH PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Community Services Director Jones provided background on City Council's request that the Parks and Recreation Commission and Cultural Arts Commission meet jointly to discuss and develop philosophies about how classes and programs should be offered to the community. He stated that City Council is struggling with how to maintain services for citizens without impacting them too much, noting the decline in participation in attendance when fees for programs and classes were raised. He stated that the

Commissions would have the opportunity to provide City Council with their philosophical approaches how services should be offered to the community in the future.

He stated that discussion between the two Commissions would include the types of classes and programs offered, the benefits of offering them, levels of subsidy, and whether they should be offered to generate revenue or to serve citizens. He recommended that the joint meeting take place at the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on October 12, 2011 at the West Annex meeting room. He stated that staff would prepare an agenda item and assist with the discussion process.

Responding to Commissioner Bunting's inquiry, Community Services Director Jones described the market rate analysis conducted a year ago that compared class and program fees with those offered in local and regional municipalities.

In response to Commissioner Miranda's inquiry, he explained that the policy to charge non-residents more than residents is being reexamined due to a decrease in enrollment and subsequent class cancellations.

Commissioner Endo-Roberts expressed her interest in seeing a cost comparison of the Nakano Theatre and the facility on Cabrillo Avenue being used by Torrance Theatre Company.

Community Services Director Jones stated that General Services believes they can rent the Armstrong Theatre to a private vendor. He explained that Torrance Theatre Company is attempting to maximize its available funding and recognized Friends of Torrance Theatre Company for providing funding for the Cabrillo Avenue facility and programming.

MOTION: Commissioner Endo-Roberts moved to approve that the joint meeting of the Cultural Arts Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission take place at the regularly scheduled Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on October 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the West Annex meeting room. Commissioner Bunting seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

8. ON-GOING BUSINESS

8A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS SUBMISSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Commissioners discussed the nomination of Southwest Manuscripts in the Literary Arts category originally submitted by Commissioner Shwartz and whether a Commissioner is allowed to make nominations. It was noted that another nomination was submitted on September 1, 2011 for the organization but was received after the July 27, 2011 deadline.

Commissioner Korman stated that in the past Commissioners were not allowed to make nominations and that the second nomination was unfair to other organizations that wanted to submit nominations but missed the deadline.

Commissioner Shwartz stated that it would be disappointing if the nomination of this candidate was not acknowledged for consideration because of an error in judgment and misunderstanding.

MOTION: Commissioner Miranda moved to accept the nomination for an Excellence in Arts Award to Southwest Manuscripts in the category of Literary Arts.

Commissioner Shwartz seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected 6-1 approval, with Commissioner Korman opposing).

Chairperson Candioly led a discussion centered on nominations in the category of Dance. Commissioners watched a short video from Fusion Studios. It was determined that a previous awardee cannot win an award in the same category again.

MOTION: Commissioner Miranda moved to approve Fusion Studios for an Excellence in Arts award in the category of Dance. Commissioner Endo-Roberts seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

The recommendation to award Penny Kastagir in the category of Visual Arts & Design was discussed and photographs of her artwork were distributed.

MOTION: Commissioner Endo-Roberts moved to accept the nomination to award Penny Kastagir an Excellence in Arts award in the category of Visual Arts & Design. Commissioner Rische seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

Commissioner Shwartz stated that she was pleased that all categories were represented and stressed the importance that the notion of cultural arts be as dynamic and inclusive as possible.

9. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

9A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS

Commissioner Endo-Roberts recommended that the Committee meet in the future to review the criteria in the Guidelines.

9B. FACILITIES COMMITTEE

No report.

9C. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE

No report.

10. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

10A. Senior Supervisor Bell noted that the Cultural Services Division Report for August 2011 was included in agenda packets. She distributed flyers for Torrance Theatre Company's "Escanaba in da Moonlight" opening September 30, 2011 as well as for "The Unseen" exhibition at Torrance Art Museum on September 17 through October 29, 2011.

11. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

11A. Commissioner Korman expressed appreciation to staff for its support of the successful August 28, 2011 Torrance Symphony Concert in the Park. She announced Torrance Symphony's opening concert in the Armstrong Theatre on October 15, 2011.

11B. Commissioner Endo-Roberts stated that she visited the exhibit 1001 Inventions Golden Age of Muslim Civilization at Los Angeles Science Museum, "Arabia" at the IMAX Theatre, the City's Employee Variety show, and the 9/11 memorial service.

11C. Commissioner Rische stated that she also enjoyed the Employee Variety show.

11D. Commissioner Shwartz stated that she enjoyed "Iris" at Kodak Theatre and a South Coast Interfaith Council memorial on September 11, 2011.

11E. Commissioner Miranda discussed preparations for United Health Care's annual enrollment, the A.A.R.P. convention, and Philippine-American expo at Los Angeles Convention Center.

11F. Commissioner Bunting stated that she was impressed with the Flagstop art show at the Lexus dealership and that she enjoyed the opening reception of "The Unseen."

11G. Chairperson Candiotti discussed Supervisor Knabe's support of making the second week of September Arts and Education Week. He stated that he enjoyed "Chicago," a Michael Wolf and Chuck Jones gallery in San Diego, and a golf tournament to raise funds for youth art programs at the Grammy Museum.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:17 p.m., Commissioner Miranda moved to adjourn the meeting to Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall for a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission. Commissioner Korman seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Candiotti so ordered.

Approved as Amended October 12, 2011 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
